

## TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Newington Town Council

From: John L. Salomone, Town Manager

Date: October 20, 2006

Re: Monthly Report – September 2006

### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

- Meetings continued with various department heads and key personnel in order to become acclimated to the Town of Newington.
- Contract negotiations continued with both the AFSCME and IBPO unions.
- I attended the ribbon cutting ceremonies at the new CBT Bank and WPI Realty, an open house at MedWorks, the Fire Department picnic, the Expo at the Senior and Disabled Center, and the Water Fall Festival.
- I also toured the Newington High School, the firehouses and the Newington Volunteer Ambulance facility and was familiarized with the Town's EMS system.
- On September 19 Mayor Mortensen and I attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting and on September 20 I spoke at the Rotary Club meeting.
- On September 20, Representative Sandy Nafis, Mayor Mortensen and I met with Jack Miller, President of CCSU.
- I also attended meetings of the Capitol Region Council of Governments Municipal Services Committee and the Policy Board.
- Newington hosted the Mayors and Managers of the Mid-State Collaborative on September 27 to discuss a number of issues of mutual concern.
- An interview was held with Christina Salvio for the position of Youth Services/Clinical Casework Coordinator and an offer extended.
- Several meetings were held with staff and contractors regarding refuse collection issues.
- I continued to attend meetings of the various boards and commissions as time allowed.

Paid overtime for the month of September 2006 was as follows:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Overtime Hours	Cost
Vehicles and Equipment	46.70	\$ 1,800.17
Weekend Stand-by and Call-in	20.00	665.12
Road Maintenance	27.60	935.32
Landfill	2.50	886.20
Raynel Road	12.40	450.98
R. Chaffee School	53.80	1,953.20
E. Green School	<u>80.50</u>	<u>2,842.18</u>
Total	243.50	\$ 8,733.17

PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION		
Pool Maintenance	10.00	\$ 371.40
Cemetery	21.00	779.94
Weekend Duty	32.00	1,188.48
Gym Floor Refinishing	24.00	891.36
Herbicide Application	25.00	<u>928.50</u>
Total	112.00	\$ 4,159.68
	2006-07 Budget	Overtime Expended
POLICE DEPARTMENT	Overtime Appr.	Fiscal Year to Date
POLICE DEPARTMENT Patrol		
	Overtime Appr.	Fiscal Year to Date
Patrol	Overtime Appr. \$ 681,636.00	Fiscal Year to Date \$179,026.27
Patrol Investigation	Overtime Appr. \$ 681,636.00 73,048.00	Fiscal Year to Date \$179,026.27 13,013.85
Patrol Investigation Communication Education/Training Support Services	Overtime Appr. \$ 681,636.00 73,048.00 57,035.00	Fiscal Year to Date \$179,026.27 13,013.85 28,544.98
Patrol Investigation Communication Education/Training	Overtime Appr.           \$ 681,636.00           73,048.00           57,035.00           54,837.00	\$179,026.27 \$13,013.85 28,544.98 6,831.13
Patrol Investigation Communication Education/Training Support Services	Overtime Appr. \$ 681,636.00 73,048.00 57,035.00 54,837.00 20,871.00	\$179,026.27 \$13,013.85 28,544.98 6,831.13 3,972.01

## **PERSONNEL**

- Christina Salvio was appointed Youth Services/Clinical Casework Coordinator to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Dot Revzon.
- A retirement reception to honor Ms. Revzon was held on September 28 and was well attended by staff and friends.
- An oral panel was convened to interview candidates for the position of Recreation Supervisor
- Applications were received for the Librarian I/Business Manager position at the Library with interviews scheduled in early October.
- Retirement notices were received from Nancy Battistini, Administrative Secretary I, Parks and Recreation, and Bryan Drapeau, Equipment Operator II, Highway Department, both effective in January 2007.

#### **Professional Development**

- Director of Information Systems and Technology Paul G. Boutot, Information Systems Specialists Scott Hoagland and Roy Zartarian and Director of Information Technology for the Board of Education, Craig Holland, attended a four day training class for VMWare.
- Fire Marshal Chris Schroeder attended the Annual Conference of the New England Fire Marshals Association in Concord, New Hampshire. Topics included: Fire Alarm Initiating Devices, Customer Service for the Fire Prevention Officer, Pubic Education on a Shoestring, NFPA Public Education, Legal Aspects of Fire Prevention, Fire Prevention Grant Writing, SMART Program-School Multi Hazard Resource Tool, Plenum Wire and Cable and Water Mist System Testing and Performance Considerations.
- The Revenue Collector attended the Northeast Regional Tax Collector's Conference for Continuing Education in Massachusetts. Topics covered were Personnel Issues, Office Ergonomics, Ethics, Office Security, Workplace Violence Prevention, and Disaster Recovery.
- Senior and Disabled Center Program Coordinator Eleanor Eichner and Social Worker Teri Snyder began a 4
  week course in health insurance counseling through the North Central Area Agency on Aging CHOICES
  program.
- A number of employees attended a Town-sponsored Asbestos Awareness seminar.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The second month of the 2006-2007 Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan year produced a combined paid claim total that was higher than the estimates that were developed at renewal. The total claims were estimated at \$678,637 per month; the initial number for August 2006 came in at \$737,185.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY**

- Completed 69 work orders.
- Blocked 52,155 SPAM/ unsolicited emails from reaching town employees and blocked/ quarantined 139 viruses from entering the Town's network.
- Completed first phase of conversion of map index files for the new Town Clerk application package.
- With the Registrars of Voters, the Education Department, Secretary of the State, and AT&T began installation of additional telephone lines needed at polling places for the November election.
- The Town web page had approximately 29,000 visits during the month with the Community and departmental activity calendars drawing the most traffic.
- Paul G. Boutot attended an MDC sponsored GIS Advisory Committee meeting in Hartford.

## **FINANCE**

## **Accounting and Administration**

- The Health Benefits Calculation was done in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding. As a
  result the Board of Education will receive a credit of \$266,575 and have opted to apply their credit in the
  2006-07 fiscal year. The General Government will receive a credit of \$126,442 but has opted to have this
  remain within the Health Benefit Reserve Fund.
- Audit work commenced for the 2005-06 fiscal year.
- Meetings were held with the Town Manager and Town Attorney concerning pending legal matters.
- The upgrade to the new release of the Town accounting system was authorized to proceed in the next month.
- Three major grants were received during the month: PILOT for State-owned properties, \$813,455; PILOT for Colleges and Hospitals, \$506,470 and Property Tax Relief for \$157,500.

The Town received the following interest rates on investments. This list includes outstanding investments that are under the control of the Finance Department and includes the General Fund and other Town Funds.

# INVESTMENTS, BY ACCOUNTING TYPE (Unaudited)

9/30/06

General Fund	\$34,497,927
Special Revenue Funds	1,863,081
Capital Projects Funds	819,178
Internal Service Fund	3,136,094
Trust and Agency Funds	<u>1,371,945</u>
TOTAL, ESTIMATED BY FUND	\$41,688,225

## INVESTMENTS, BY INSTITUTION TYPE

(Unaudited) 9/30/06

Interest \$

\$ Invested

	Current	Last	Current	Last	
Ave. Monthly Yield, Annualized	Month	Month	Month	Month	
STIF	5.37	5.52	43,469	65,789	7,335,853
Banknorth	5.37	5.45	65,636	66,833	14,731,798
CLASS PLUS	4.97	4.94	30,122	30,122	7,248,405
Sovereign Bank MM	5.17	5.20	52,434	54,135	12,372,169
Total Outstanding Investments					41,688,225

Interest %

## <u>Assessor</u>

- Real estate transfers were completed in the Assessor's database up to September 28.
- A presentation was made to the Town Council on the proposed fixed assessment contract with Aero-Craft.
- The Assessor and the Town Attorney met to discuss strategies for pending court cases.
- Field work inspections for building permits for the 2006 Grand List were begun and will continue through the fall. All properties with certificate of occupancies were inspected, measured and valued, including new units at Woodlands, Waverly Drive, and Fennwyck Estates.

## **Revenue Collector**

- The Tax Office staff was extremely busy in September due to the recent mailing of delinquent notices.
- As a result of direct contact with a mortgage holder about unpaid taxes, over \$405,000 in taxes and fees were paid by a large property tax delinquent.
- Daily updating of address changes continues.
- The Tax Office Staff continues to contact Quality Data System for assistance with reports and tax processing.

## **PURCHASING**

RFP NO. 4, 2005-06, CEMETERY SERVICES

Opening Date: November 2, 2005

Respondent

Newington Memorial Funeral Home, Newington

The proposal is under review.

## BID NO. 25, 2005-06, NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL 3RD FLOOR AIR CONDITIONING

Opening Date: September 6, 2006

Bidder	Location	Base Bid	Unit Bids (10 Units)
Action Air	Manchester	\$310,563	\$125,560
Barry Associates	Preston	\$383,000	\$15,222
Crest Mechanical	Hartford	\$498,600	\$45,860

The bid was awarded to Action Air for the low bid; Barry Associates withdrew their bid due to a pricing error.

BID NO. 2, 2006-07, POLICE VEHICLES

Opening Date: September 7, 2006

Bidder	Location	Bid
Wagner Ford	Simsbury	\$22,572.00
Warnock Automotive	East Hanover, NJ	\$23,537.00
Morande Ford	Berlin	\$23,556.06
Herb Chambers Ford	Braintree, MA	\$23,698.00
Hoffman Ford	Simsbury	\$25,905.50

The bid was awarded to Wagner Ford for their low bid.

## BID NO. 3, 2006-07, TWO NEW HIGHWAY TRUCKS

Opening Date: October 10, 2006

#### BID NO. 4, 2006-07, TOWN HALL LOWER LEVELHAZARDOUS MATERIALS ABATEMENT

Opening Date: October 12, 2006

## RFP NO. 1, 2006-07, DEVELOPER OF AFFORDABLE, AGE-RESTRICTED HOUSING

Opening Date: August 22, 2006

#### Respondents:

Beach Investments, LLC, Rocky Hill New Samaritan Corporation, Hamden

The respondents appeared before the Town Council on September 26 to discuss their proposals. Beach Investments subsequently withdrew from the process. Discussions at the Council level will continue.

## RFP NO. 2, 2006-07, ROOF REPLACEMENT ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

Opening Date: October 12, 2006

## **TOWN CLERK**

- 573 documents filed on the land records during September.
- There were 68 property transfers with \$47,363.59 collected in State conveyance tax and \$24,171.80 collected in Town conveyance tax. There were four residential sales each over \$300,000.
- Tanya Lane, Town Clerk, attended a Hartford County meeting and the Election Conference sponsored by the Secretary of the State. Seminars and discussions were about the new voting technology for the upcoming State Election.
- Newington was selected as one of the 20 towns to utilize the optical scan voting machines on November 7th.
  This will mean a change in the usual election preparations prompting the Town Clerk to work closely with the
  vendor and the Secretary of the State's office to ensure that the ballots are printed correctly, and to work with
  the Registrars of Voters to effect a smooth transition for Newington electors.

#### **Data Summary--September 2006**

	September 2006	September 2005	FY 2006-07 to Date	FY 2005-06 to Date
Land Record Documents	573	777	1,830	2,159
Dog Licenses Sold	24	37	271	311
Game Licenses Sold	71	82	224	421
Vital Statistics				
Marriage Licenses	29	30	75	84
Civil Unions				

Death Certificates	21	23	54	67
Birth Certificates	14	9	52	46
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 41,839.30	\$ 57,786.75	\$177,002.24	\$179,346.60
Town Document Preservation	\$ 1,111.00	\$ 751.00	\$ 3,533.00	\$ 2,082.00
State Document Preservation	\$ 1,112.00	\$ 1,502.00	\$ 3,546.00	\$ 4,164.00
State Treasurer (\$26 fee)	\$ 14,430.00			
Locip	\$ 1,665.00		\$ 32,995.00	
State Game Licenses	\$ 532.00	\$ 1,033.50	\$ 5,263.00	\$ 7,307.00
State Dog Licenses	\$ 164.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,922.50	\$ 2,179.00
Dog Licenses Surcharge	\$ 56.00	\$ 98.00	\$ 707.00	\$ 786.00
Marriage & CU Surcharge	\$ 342.00	\$ 247.00	\$ 931.00	\$ 1,045.00
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Grand Total	\$ 61,251.30	\$ 61,718.25	\$225,899.74	\$196,909.60

## **REGISTRARS**

- The Registrars of Voters attended the Fall Convention sponsored by the Secretary of the State.
- As a result of being selected as one of 20 towns to receive the new voting technology, Newington will receive
  one IVS machine for handicapped electors for each polling place and 17 LHS optical scan machines and 74
  privacy booths.
- The new LHS optical scan technology was demonstrated at the Water Fall Festival on September 30.
- 103 new voter applications were received.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- As of September 30, 2006, the Police Department completed its patrol under the Red Light Enforcement Grant on the Berlin Turnpike.
- The Police Department requested reimbursement under the Department of Justice Universal Hiring Grant for the hiring of an officer to replace an officer being assigned in the Community Services Division.
- A request for Homeland Security Commercial Equipment application was submitted for spreaders, cutters and RAM tools.
- During the month of September, the Community Services Unit provided specific attention to 13 different streets and neighborhoods where enforcement of speed, stop sign violations, and other violations took place. Three areas that received significant attention were Garfield Street by Walsh Avenue, Richard Street by Pfizer Drive and Dowd Street by Farmstead Drive.
- Approximately 75 traffic stops were made by the Community Services Unit in September for speeding, stop sign violations, and equipment violations.
- Community Service Officers attended the Expo at the Senior and Disabled Center to provide education and written material regarding how to avoid being victimized by identity theft and common scams. The Community Services Unit also provided ICE (In Case of Emergency) stickers for seniors to place on their identifications.
- Community Services Officers also provided security at the Water Fall Festival on September 30 and were available to answer any calls for service.
- 51 offenses were the subject of investigation by Detective Division personnel in September.

### Patrol Calls for September:

AlarmBurg	116	F/COsymp	1	MVAProp	89
Animal	35	F/Hazmat	1	MVAssist	66
Animal - CAT	1	F/Other	11	MVComplaint	48
AssaultIP	6	F/Struc	8	Neighbor	5
AssaultRep	7	F/Veh	3	Noise	20

Assist	28	F/Water	1	Notification	3
BreachIP	21	Fingerprint	19	Open Door/Window	4
BreachRep	6	Fireworks	5	Parking Violation	14
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BurgIP	2	Followup	27	PropFound	10
BurgRep	11	Harassment	32	PropLost	12
CarSeat	6	Hazard	22	RecoveredMV	3
Check	85	IllegalDumping	2	Serve Subpoena	6
ClearLot	15	Intoxicated	16	ServWarrant	14
Court	18	JuvComp	65	Sexual Assault Rep	3
CrimMisIP	5	Land/Tenant	1	Shots	3
CrimMisRep	24	LarcFromMV	25	SpecDetail	42
CustomerIP	5	LarcIP	9	StolenMV	12
Dog	47	LarcRep	48	SuicideAtt	1
DomesticIP	26	Liquor	1	SUSPICIOUS	124
DomesticRep	16	Location	67	SuspMVOcc	6
DRUG	8	LockoutResid	1	Susp MV Unoccup	4
DUI	5	Medical	150	ThreatRep	2
EDP	11	Missing Person	6	TownOrd	7
Escort	27	MVAband	10	Traffic Stop	547
F/Alarm	19	MVAEvading	16	TrespassIP	3
F/COno	2	MVAInjury	15	TrespassRep	4
				TOTAL FOR NPD	2,166

## **UCR/NIBRS Selected Crimes**

## August 2006

## August 2005

Type of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime	# of Offenses	Value
Murder	0	-0-	-0-	-0-
Forcible Rape	2	-0-	1	-0-
Robbery	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Assault	10	-0-	9	-0-
Burglary	11	\$7,573	10	\$8,493
Larceny Theft	62	\$16,331	54	\$16,407
Auto Theft	13	\$124,370	6	\$25,375
Totals	98	\$148,274	80	\$50,275
at -				
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Totals	256	\$326,788	185	\$237,082
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Totals	258	\$305,692	218	\$274,505

• In August 2006 the Police Department arrested 49 adults, 6 for assaults, 2 for burglary, 1 for motor vehicle theft, 1 for forgery and fraud, 6 for narcotic violations, 8 for DUI, and 25 for other miscellaneous offenses. The department also arrested or referred 9 persons under the age of 18 for criminal acts.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Fire Department responded to 55 alarms/emergencies as follows:

	September	3 months
	2006	<u>Cum.</u>
Residential	16	45
Commercial, Industrial, Office	5	14

Hospital, School	3	12
Vehicle	3	10
Rescue, Police Assistance	2	4
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass, Brush, Leaves	2	9
Hazardous Materials/Clean up	3	11
Investigative Alarm	17	78
False Alarm	0	0
Mutual Aid/Standby	1	1
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	3	6
Water Related Incidents/Pump-Outs	0	<u>0</u>
Total	55	193

## **Training Summary:**

	Members	Hours
Officer Training (Assuming Role of Company Officer)	18	36
HazMat Training (Awareness)	41 courses completed	125
Multi-Company Training – Basic Extrication	47	191
Sexual Harassment Training	27	81
Fire Instructor I	2	96
Terrorism Security	2	42
NIMS Training	7	21
Firefighter I	5	720
Firefighter II	2	<u>120</u>
Total		1,432

## **FIRE MARSHAL**

The Fire Marshal's Office completed the following activities during the month of September.

Inspections	20
Inspection Follow-Ups	47
Plan Review	9
Job Site Inspections	5
Underground Tank Removal	1
Fire Investigations	2
Fire Alarm Trouble	1
Complaints	0
Haz/Mat	1
Bomb Threats	0
Blasting	3

## Incidents:

- On September 18, a fire in a second floor apartment on East Cedar Street resulted in extensive damage to the apartment unit.
- On September 26, a fire in a second floor bedroom caused extensive damage to a two-family house on Greenlawn Avenue.

## **PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

- Participated in the annual inspection of the Piper Brook Channel conducted by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Natural Resources Services. DEP would like the Town to improve the maintenance activities of the banks of the Channel by removing tree growth.
- In accordance with guidance from the Town Attorney's Office, updated a new drainage agreement for those property owners who desire to tie their private drainage lines to the Town's drainage system.
- Reviewed a pilot sample of the Town's pavement management rating system. When completed this system will rate every road in town and provide maintenance strategies as well.
- The Conservation Commission approved plans to relocate Sam's Club to Newington. As part of the approval Sam's will provide the Town a check in the amount of \$200,000 to be used by the Town for the purpose of pursuing a flood control project or wetlands enhancement project.
- Coordinated the list of sidewalks to be reconstructed under the sidewalk maintenance contact.
- Participated in the MDC scheduled pre-construction meeting for a sanitary sewer extension at 603 New Britain Avenue. Construction is scheduled to be done in October.

## **Highway Department**

- Highway Department personnel worked with a private contractor to pulverize the road base material and
  existing pavement on Raynel Road. Crews were then able to shape, grade and compact the base material in
  preparation for paving.
- Pavement restoration for the Board of Education was conducted at both the Ruth Chaffee and Elizabeth Green Elementary Schools as a result of recent drainage improvements.
- Highway crews assisted Senior and Disabled Center staff with aesthetic and functional landscape design changes. These enhancements included additional decorative stones and a newly paved area designed to allow easier building access.
- Personnel continued assisting the Traffic Division with street sign replacements throughout the town.
- Equipment Operators spent several days removing ground woodchips which were generated by the vegetation grinding at the Town landfill last month.
- Miscellaneous projects completed during the month included pothole patching, street sweeping and catch basin rebuilding and cleaning.
- Mechanics continued with the preparation and maintenance of leaf collection equipment. Fall services for the
  Fire Department equipment have begun as well as preventative maintenance and emergency repairs to all
  Town vehicles and equipment.

## **TOWN PLANNER**

September activities underway in the Town Planner's office:

- New Meadow Phase II Senior Housing At the Town Council's September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting two prospective developers were present to discuss their proposals to build age-restricted housing at the 2.3 acre New Meadow site. New Samaritan Corporation recommended that this project be financed with HUD 202 funds. The second developer, Beach Investments, LLC, withdrew their proposal citing inability to secure adequate financing to construct between 30 to 40 units. Beach Investments stated that the project's small size and low density would drive costs and without deep subsidy funding, such as the HUD 202, development costs would require rents well beyond the means of low and moderate income seniors.
- Eddy Farm Development Rights Purchase Connecticut Department of Agriculture Grant.
   The Town Planner has submitted a request to the Department of Agriculture for \$350,000 for payment of the Eddy Farm development rights purchased by the Town last June. The State Bond Commission approved this funding at its March 21, 2006 meeting.

Development Projects reviewed by the Town Planner and the Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ) during September:

- <u>1052 Main Street</u> Proposed redevelopment of back of building adjacent to municipal parking lot approved by TPZ, September 27. Project involves demolition of old concrete block single level storage area and construction of new ground floor retail and two second floor apartments.
- <u>Corner of Louis Street and Pascone Place</u> TPZ approved site development plans and architectural elevations for a 5,000 sq. ft. professional office building to be occupied by Judson Family Chiropractic.
- Corner of Alumni Road and Willard Avenue TPZ approved site development plans and architectural elevations for a 25,000 sq. ft. office park complex which will include a bank and three single story buildings designed for professional tenant occupancy.
- <u>Shoppe's at East Cedar</u> a 9 acre mixed use project (retail, restaurant, hotel, gas station); public hearing was closed September 27. This project involves reconstruction of East Cedar Street and a new traffic signal at the crest of the highway which will require State Traffic Commission approval.
- <u>Cedar Ridge Commerce Park</u> a 28 acre, four lot subdivision for commercial use; public hearing was continued September 13 and September 27. This site plan proposes extensive excavation of rock and changes to the ridge's landscape. Site walk was conducted on August 23. Inland Wetlands report is required.
- <u>2557 Berlin Turnpike</u> Proposed redevelopment of three blighted structures on a 2.7 acre parcel for a 100 unit Comfort Suites Motel. Revised plans were submitted and an Inland Wetlands Commission review is required.
- <u>Deming Street Proposed Active Adult</u> 24 unit housing development. This project will require Special Exception and Site Plan approval of the TPZ. The Commission has scheduled a public hearing for October 11. Inland Wetlands review and report is required for this project.
- <u>183 Louis Street</u> Volvo Aero-Craft proposed site development for a new 27,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility. Scheduled for presentation on September 27. TPZ is waiting for Inland Wetlands report prior to acting on this project.
- <u>Sam's Club Store</u> Realm Realty's proposal for a 134,000 sq. ft. retail store and 12 pump gas station facility at the former Caldor Plaza. Phase I Redevelopment approved for Stew Leonard's in March 2006. Staff reviewed development plans for this project and submitted its comments to the project engineer. Based on the extensive issues raised by the Town Planner, the developer chose to schedule a presentation to the TPZ at its October 25 meeting.

#### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

- Permits were issued for a single family home at 31 Harman Court and for a duplex home at 100-103 Beckley Street.
- Eight permits issued for townhouses, 7 Barkledge Drive, 13 Barkledge Drive, 19 Barkledge Drive, 25 Barkledge Drive, 31 Barkledge Drive, 37 Barkledge Drive, 43 Barkledge Drive and 49 Barkledge Drive.
- Three permits issued for the Town of Newington, an electrical permit to install security lighting and
  miscellaneous repairs to existing exterior lighting at Mill Pond Park, an electrical permit to install wiring and
  connections for two scoreboards at Memorial Field and Legend Field at the Clem Lemire Complex, and a
  permit to re-roof the building at the Little League Field at the Clem Lemire Complex.
- A permit was issued to construct a new McDonald's Restaurant on the existing site, 2355 Berlin Turnpike.
- Five Certificates of Occupancy were issued, all for single family houses (107 Sterling Drive, 119 Sterling Drive, 113 Sterling Drive, 4 Memory Lane, and 125 Sterling Drive).

Building Inspectors completed a total of 479 inspections: Alarm (1), Boiler (1), CO (24), Code (22), Concrete Floor (4), Decks (1), Electrical (93), Fence (1), Final (6), Footings (31), Foundation (14), Framing (53), Gas Fireplace (1), Gas Line (7), Grade (1), Gypsum (9), Insulation (21), Mechanical (43), Piers (13), Plumbing (45), Plywood (1), Pools (4), Rebars (23), Roofing (10), Rough (30), Sheathing (7), Sill (6), Sprinkler (4), Sub Slab (1), Trench (1), Wood / Pellet Stove (1).

Seminars attended by the Building Inspectors for their continuing education credit were:

David Zwick	2003 IBC Chapter 17 – Special Inspections – 9/27/06
	2003 IFC Hazardous Materials Provisions (Interm. Level) – 9/28/06
Art Hanke	2003 IBC Chapter 17 – Special Inspections – 9/6/06
Richard Smith	2003 IBC Chapter 17 – Special Inspections – 9/6/06
	2003 IFC Hazardous Materials Provisions (Interm. Level) – 9/29/06
Pete Hobbs	2003 IBC Chapter 17 – Special Inspections – September 20, 2006

## **Building/Renovation Permit Statistics**

Type of Permit	No. of Permits	Value of Permits
Addition/Alterations	15	\$ 501,238
Deck	1	2,000
Demolition	0	0
Electrical	34	93,683
Fence	0	0
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	1	20,560
Footing/Foundation	0	0
Fuel Tank	0	0
Garage/Shed	6	101,339
Mechanical	25	187,354
New Commercial	1	410,000
New Residential	11	2,489,550
Plumbing	11	25,760
Pool	2	38,000
Roofing/Siding	29	149,642
Sign	0	0
Tent	1	2,200
Trailer	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	137	\$4,021,326

## Permit Value Comparison for September:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Value of Permits Issued	\$4,021,326	\$1,965,521
Building Permit Fees Received	\$46,314	\$31,215
Other Income Fees	\$1,511	\$2,556
Building Permits Issued	137	186

## Total Value of Permits and Permit Fees:

	2006-2007		2005-2006	
ſ	Value Permit Fee		Value	Permit Fee
ſ	\$14,431,559 \$167,260		\$8,211,075	\$128,175

## **HEALTH DEPARTMENT (Central Connecticut Health District) (CCHD)**

- The CCHD Newington office located in the east wing of the Town Hall has been renovated with furnishings donated by Northeast Utilities. Health District staff in the Newington office can be contacted at 665-8586 or 665-8587.
- Greg Mattus, Sanitarian covering Newington, met with representatives from the Stew Leonard's store in Danbury, CT to discuss plans for the proposed Newington store. The Danbury store was toured to help in the plan review process and to gain a better understanding of how a facility of this magnitude operates.

- District staff met with representatives of the Newington Board of Education to assist in an investigation regarding several cases of viral meningitis at the high school. Although the source of the virus was not determined, measures were taken to control an outbreak of this illness. An informational meeting was held at the high school for students and parents of the affected students.
- Nancy Brault, Chief of Environmental Health Services for the CCHD, attended the Newington Senior and Disabled Center Health Expo and provided health information/brochures to over 60 visitors.
- Mosquito larvacide was applied to all catch basins and Town- owned wetlands that are known mosquito breeding areas. Mosquitoes trapped in Churchill Park this summer tested positive for the West Nile Virus. As a result the Town of Newington received mosquito larvacide from the State of Connecticut at no charge in at attempt to reduce transmission of the virus to humans. Mosquito surveillance will continue through the end of October.
- Mr. Mattus completed his annual refresher course for recertification as a Lead Inspector, per Connecticut Department of Public Health (CDPH) regulations.
- Complaints for this month numbered 14. Complaints for this month consisted of; dust, noise, insect infestations, poorly maintained property, mosquitoes, and illegal dumping.
- Laura Morris has accepted the part-time position of Community Health Coordinator for the Central Connecticut Health District. Ms. Morris will be located in the Newington Senior and Disabled Center and will be responsible for implementing grants and coordinating community health programs.
- The CCHD has selected the sites for this year's flu clinics. The locations are: Berlin Senior or Community Center, Newington Senior and Disabled Center, Rocky Hill Community Center, and Wethersfield Community Center. Clinic dates and times will be advertised and placed on the CT Lung Association Flu Hot Line (1-888-NO-TO-FLU). Residents can also call the Health District Central Office at 721-2822 (option 1) to hear a recorded message.

## Statistical Summary

	Monthly Totals	Year to Date	Last Year to Date
Food Establishment Inspections	2	228	340
Food Establishment Reinspections	0	36	39
Other Routine Inspections	15	74	62
New Complaints Received	14	170	185
Complaint investigation made	14	190	187
Notice of Violation issued by Public Health Coordinator	0	44	42
Legal Order issued by Director of Health	0	2	2
Complaint compliance recorded	10	138	155

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

- The Early Childhood Council will sponsor the first of three parent workshops on October 5 entitled "Discipline for Young Children." Clinical Social Worker and Parent Educator Ruth Freeman will teach this workshop.
- ICAN volunteers continue to assist residents in need. There were six referrals this month including yard work, errands and small fix it projects.
- The Youth-Adult Council continues to plan the substance abuse prevention program with Ginger Katz, scheduled for October 26. Ms. Katz will share the tragic story of her son's death due to drugs and alcohol with seventh and eighth grade students during the day and a program for all Newington parents in the evening at Town Hall.
- A variety of positive youth development activities were offered including:
  - The fall SCORE program beginning October 2. Weekly and individual day programs are available after school Monday through Friday.
  - > Two of the animal programs were so popular that additional classes are offered to accommodate interested middle school age youth.

- Youth Worker Crystal Morawitz and Coordinator Karen Futoma provided parent orientations for the sixth grade ROPE program at both middle schools during the Open Houses.
- The first cycle of ROPE was completed at both middle schools.
- > The High School Adventure Club held its first meeting and began planning their activities for the year.
- The Challenge Course was extremely active with numerous users including Morley Extended Day School, Connecticut College and several groups from Central Connecticut State University.
- The Youth and Family Counseling Program handled 12 new cases with the active caseload at 35. There were 3 inactive and 6 closed cases. Staff and contractors conducted 44 clinical therapy sessions and made 61 contacts with families and other agencies.
- Staff provided social casework services to 72 active cases with 21 new referrals. Presenting issues include housing, mental health, health, energy assistance, substance abuse, domestic violence and elderly neglect.
- Coordinator Karen Futoma and Social Worker Carol Labrecque are preparing for the holiday programs and are in contact with a variety of groups who will assist.
- Ms. Futoma is supervising three student interns as part of their field placements through Central Connecticut State University.

## September 2006 Statistics

	FY 06-07 Undp. Total	FY 06-07 Undp. Total	FY 06-07 Cum. Undp.	FY 05-06 Cum. Undp.
Selected Programs	This Month	Last Month	Total YTD	Total YTD
Youth and Family Counseling	35	36	56	70
Positive Youth Development	95	296	1,185	1,112
Youth Works (Job Bank)	5	5	14	15
Information and Referral	178	135	507	519
Social Casework Cases	72	85	114	122
Under 55 = 32				
Over 55 = 40				
Food Bank Participants	74	84	226	259
Special Needs	27	24	70	41

#### **SENIOR AND DISABLED CENTER**

- The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Expo on September 29 was a resounding success. With 57 vendors and up to 400 attendees, the only problem was finding parking. Screenings, health care, Town, State and Federal agencies, financial services, legal services and assisted living were among the topics represented.
- The inaugural meeting of a new Red Hat Society chapter was held at the Center on September 26. The Red
  Hat Society, a gathering of women celebrating their maturity by wearing red hats and purple outfits while
  having a good time, is a national phenomenon. The first planned outing is to see the Painted Horses in
  Granby.
- Health programs in September included a skin cancer screening by Dr. Babcock and a program on Arthritis and Exercise offered by physical therapist Alex Oberschall.
- The Center has been fielding an increasing number of calls for flu shots. The CCHD will provide shots at the Senior and Disabled Center as one of their clinics sometime in late October or early November. The date is dependent on their receipt of a vaccine supply.
- Center Director Dianne Stone participated as a presenter at the Connecticut Association for Community Action conference in a session regarding the elderly services network in the state.
- Ms. Stone presented a plaque to the Wallingford Senior Center on behalf of the National Institute of Senior Centers and the Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel at their accreditation celebration.

## Dial-A-Ride Wellness Clinic Senior Café

Trips	Miles	On-site	Off-site	Meals Served
1,361	4,253	112	12	1,193

## **Project Homeshare**

	Current Matches	Providers	Seekers	Counseling Calls
Newington	6	12	5	5
Other Comm.	6	42	61	18

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

## Administration

- Wendy Rubin, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, participated in a panel presentation entitled "How to Survive an OSHA Inspection" with her colleague John Bennett of Canton Parks & Recreation for the Connecticut Recreation Park Association on Sept. 26.
- Bill Beckner of CEHP, Inc., the master plan consultant, visited the week of Sept. 11 to finish interviews and on-site review. He met with the Board of Parks & Recreation and will be presenting preliminary findings in November.
- Ms. Rubin and Chris Apruzese, Chairman of the Greenways Alliance, met with Leslie Lewis of the State DEP Greenways Division and hiked potions of Cedar Mountain and 20 Rod Road trails to identify possible grant opportunities for trail improvements. The volunteers held a clean-up workday at 20 Rod Road on Sept. 24.
- Recreation Supervisor Kristine Kravontka attended the National Institute on Recreation and Inclusion Conference in Groton.
- Ms. Kravontka and Interim Recreation Supervisor Alison Alberghini participated in the Senior & Disabled Center Expo.

### **Recreation Division**

- Invitations have been mailed for the department's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gathering at Indian Hill Country Club in October.
- The Teen Center opened for its 33rd straight season.
- Fall program registration has begun with 90 sessions and classes offered.
- A foosball table, pool table/supplies, and video gaming center were purchased for the Teen Center from the golf tournament funds and were well received on opening night.
- Department staff and board members interviewed prospective coaches for the Girls Travel Basketball Team.
- The Creative Playtime Preschool Program was licensed through the State of Connecticut as a registered Day Care Center.

#### **Parks & Grounds Division**

- Final detail landscape planting and seeding was completed at Fire Company 2.
- Partial pruning of West Meadow Cemetery was conducted and several failing rows of plant materials removed.
- Pool closings and shutdown activities were conducted as well as repairs to the irrigation system at Newington High School.
- Preliminary work on replacement irrigation at Badger Field was also begun.
- The existing infield at Badger field was removed to permit re-grading.
- The Mortensen Community Center gym floor was stripped and refinished by Division personnel.

- Mowing of the Young Farm fields was conducted to prevent brush intrusion.
- Division personnel removed the plant materials from the Saddle Hill circle and planted it with grass.
- There were 12 interments in Town cemeteries in September.

## **LIBRARY**

- The Library Board held their annual meeting, at which they elected officers and honored those individuals
  and groups that contributed to the library in some way during the past year. Newly elected officers are
  Maureen Lyons, President; Paul Crosswaith, Vice President; Judy Igielski, Secretary; Iris Larsson, Treasurer.
  Honorees included Christine Mansloff, CCARC, Laurel Scialabba, HARC, Dunkin' Donuts, and WalMart.
- 1,970 children and their caregivers attended 24 programs. Highlights included assemblies at all elementary schools to honor summer readers. The *Playtivity* group performed as part of the festivities.
- Preschool outreach took place at nine locations for 169 children.
- 82 gift bags were distributed to those children who registered for first-time library cards during Library Card Sign-Up Month. Children's Room staff was present at each elementary school's parent open house, and distributed library information and library card applications at those venues.
- The Family Place Parent/Child Workshop, one of the premier children's programs at the library, offers
  parents access to professional resource people who can help with possible diagnoses of early childhood
  problems. This past month, an expert diagnosed enlarged adenoids and tonsils of a preschooler, who is now
  due to have surgery to correct the problem, an example of the many successes of this important aid to
  parents.
- Five programs were held for adults.
  - The monthly lunch-time *Brown Bag It* series began this season with an art theme.
  - Sharon Stotz, curator of the Hill-Stead Museum, presented a slide show and talk about this gem among Connecticut museums.
  - Exploring Indian Cuisine, part of the World Cuisine series, was a well-attended demonstration of curry dishes by Chef David deMercado.
  - Book discussion groups rounded out the month.
- A photographic exhibit of work done by teens during the summertime photography club was featured in the teen area during September.
- Topics of note that were researched this month included:
  - > List of personal injury lawyers in New Britain.
  - > Senior condos in Newington.
  - Home improvement tax credits.
  - > Ratings of vacuum cleaners.
  - Leveled reading books.
- Circulation of materials for the month was 32,614 (+8%); there was a 9% increase in the number of people using the building during September (20,509). 5,332 (+14%) reference questions were answered and 1,222 items were processed and added to the collection. There were 5,531 hits to the library's homepage.